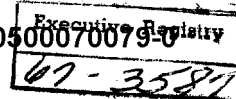


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27 JUL 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: The President

SUBJECT : Transmittal of Vietnam Report

1. Mr. William Colby, Chief of our operating division on the Far East, is currently on an inspection trip during the course of which he has visited our Vietnam Station. Pursuant to a remark you made to me at a recent meeting, I asked Mr. Colby to take a very careful look at all of our activities in Vietnam and submit a personal report to me on his findings and conclusions. I think you will find this report interesting and informative and I am, therefore, forwarding it to you as an attachment to this memorandum.

2. Mr. Colby is one of our ablest and most professional officers, and one long personally associated with the Vietnam problem. In January

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25X1 [REDACTED] Mr. Colby has devoted a major

portion of his professional attention to Vietnam and its problems for more than eight years. It would be hard to find a more knowledgeable observer.

3. I think you will recognize from the general tone as well as the specific contents of the attached report that this Agency is going flat out in its effort to contribute to the success of the total US program in Vietnam and is utilizing the full range of professional resources, skill and imagination available to us. In numerical terms, our input is small in comparison to other components of the government, particularly the military. Qualitatively, however, I find the performance of our officers in the field most gratifying and believe this view is shared by their colleagues in other government components, including not only Ambassador Bunker but also his predecessors in that office.

4. As Mr. Colby indicates, there are obviously sticky problems which remain to be solved. These, however, are being worked on with every resource at our command. For example, we are already endeavoring to meet the requirements he identifies for additional personnel. We have

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of available professionals being exhausted. Thirty-seven of these have already been trained in the United States and are en route to Vietnam.

5. The thing I find perhaps most significant is the way our Station is playing its role as a participating member of the US team effort rather than a separate bureaucratic entity. Our officers and their programs are fully integrated into the total structure headed by Ambassador Bunker and, on the pacification side, into the new combined organization which Ambassador Komer directs as General Westmoreland's executive agent.

/s/ Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Director

Attachment

cc: The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

O/DCI/SAVA/VAS: GACarver/mee 26Jul67

Distribution

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